

ACTIVITY: Swimming

CASE: [GSAF 1984.07.24.a](#)

DATE: Tuesday July 24, 1984

LOCATION: The incident took place in the Gulf of Mexico near the Tiki Hotel at South Padre Island, Texas, USA

NAME: Unknown

DESCRIPTION: She is a 13-year-old female.

BACKGROUND:

TIME: 14h30

NARRATIVE: No details.

INJURY: Dr. Ralph Landsberg said, "She had lots of teeth marks around her right foot up to her ankle. There were many lacerations."

TREATMENT: She was treated at the Port Isabel Medical Center by Dr. Landsberg and released. Her injury required 70 stitches.

SPECIES INVOLVED: Unknown.

SOURCE: The Chronicle Telegram, Wednesday, July 25, 1984; Alex MacCormick, citing the New Orleans Times-Picayune, July 26, 1984



2 girls bitten in separate shark attacks

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas (AP) — “Help me, please, a fish is killing me,” cried a teen-age girl whose legs were mangled by a shark in the first of two attacks on swimmers at this Gulf Coast beach resort.

Police patrolled beaches overnight and city and county officials planned to meet today to decide whether it is safe for sunbathers to frolic in the surf following the attacks on the teen-age girls Tuesday.

Both were swimming in chest-deep water in front of their luxury hotels when they were attacked.

Carmen Gaytan, 18, of Mexi-

co City, underwent six hours of surgery for “severe leg injury” at Valley Community Hospital in Brownsville, where she was in guarded condition today, said hospital spokeswoman Susie Payne.

She needed up to 60 stitches in both legs and one ankle was severely mangled, hospital officials said.

Just two hours later, about 3½ half miles away, a 13-year-old girl was also attacked by a shark near the Tiki Motel, officials said. She was treated and released from a local hospital.